

Docket No: BARAN
Appl. No: 10/669,387

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS WITHOUT MARKINGS

IN THE DRAWING:

Fig.1 has been amended.

Docket No: BARAN
Appl. No: 10/669,387

REMARKS

The last Office Action of September 28, 2005 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration of the instant application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 are pending in the application. No claims have been canceled or amended. Claims 1-7 remain in this application.

It is noted that the Drawing has been objected for failing to show the semiconductor switches. A Replacement Sheet with a corrected Fig. 1 is submitted with this Response.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,977,510 to Winzenz et al. (hereinafter "Winzenz").

In the alternative, claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Winzenz in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,684,707 to Hagiwara.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's rejection of claim 1 for the following reasons:

Claim 1 recites a processing machine with a converter unit which supplies power to the spindle motor. The converter unit includes gate-turnoff power semiconductors.

The Examiner asserts that Winzenz discloses gate-turnoff power semiconductors as elements 178, 182, or 218 or 222, shown in Fig. 4. However, applicant disagrees with this characterization and submits that Winzenz does not disclose gate-turnoff power semiconductors.

Upon closer inspection of the Winzenz reference, the depicted elements 178 and 182 refer to analog switches. For example, switch 178 selects either the signals on line 226 or signal on line 230 and places the selected signal upon output line 234 to integrator 186. Integrator 186 [...] performs standard mathematical integration upon signals on line 234 in order to convert the signals to a measure of displacement upon rotating device 14. (col. 6, lines 38-45). Accordingly, Winzenz's depicted elements 178 and 182 do not supply power to the

Docket No: BARAN
Appl. No: 10/669,387

spindle motor and are therefore not identical or equivalent to the gate-turnoff power semiconductors recited in claim 1.

Likewise, the standard D/A converters 218 and 222 shown in Fig. 4 are used to process twelve bits and three bits of data. For example, converter 218 produces an analog output signal on line 102, in response to information received from microprocessor 118, which has a varying level of zero to positive ten volts and which represents a vibration level of device 14 to display 74. Converter 222 produces an analog output signal on line 104 which, in response to information received from microprocessor 118, has a varying level of zero to positive six volts and which indicates where the imbalance upon rotating device 14 is located relative to a subdivided area thereon. Signals on line 102 and 104 are both connected to display 74. (col. 8, lines 3-13). Accordingly, Winzenz's depicted elements 218 and 222 also do not supply power to the spindle motor and are therefore not identical or equivalent to the gate-turnoff power semiconductors recited in claim 1.

Hagiwara discloses a spindle motor, but fails to disclose the converter unit with gate-turnoff power semiconductors.

For the reasons set forth above, it is Applicant's contention that Winzenz and Hagiwara, taken either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the features of the present invention, as recited in claim 1.

As for the rejection of the retained dependent claims, these claims depend on claim 1, share its presumably allowable features, and therefore it is respectfully submitted that these claims should also be allowed.

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) and allowance of claims 1-7 are thus respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above presented remarks and amendments, it is respectfully submitted that all claims on file should be considered patentably differentiated over

Docket No: BARAN
Appl. No: 10/669,387

the art and should be allowed.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner consider necessary or desirable any formal changes anywhere in the specification, claims and/or drawing, then it is respectfully requested that such changes be made by Examiner's Amendment, if the Examiner feels this would facilitate passage of the case to issuance. If the Examiner feels that it might be helpful in advancing this case by calling the undersigned, applicant would greatly appreciate such a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Henry M. Feiereisen
Agent For Applicant
Reg. No: 31,084

Date: December 27, 2005
350 Fifth Avenue
Suite 4714
New York, N.Y. 10118
(212)244-5500
HMF/WS:af